

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for deblistering a pharmaceutical blister pack having a number of product blisters and a lidding material thereover, the apparatus comprising:
a pack holding means adapted to hold the blister pack; and
means to transfer the pack into and out of alignment with an operating position, the operating position having a lidding material cutting means and a blister punching means on opposing sides thereof.
2. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means has a series of indentations.
3. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means has a series of holes extending through the pack holding means.
4. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means retains the blister pack through ~~one or more~~ at least one of a retaining means and/or and a restraining means.

5. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~
Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means is retained by a plate transfer means.
6. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the plate
transfer means is adapted to provide movement of the pack holding means into and out of
alignment of the operating position.
7. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the plate
transfer means is guided in its movement, optionally by ~~one or more~~ at least one of arms,
guide rails ~~and/or~~ and pins.
8. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~
Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means is moveable into and out of alignment of the
operating position in one movement.
9. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~
Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means is moveable when out of alignment with the
operating position.
10. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~
~~claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the lidding material cutting means includes a number of cutting

pieces—such as studs.

11. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the cutting pieces are attached to a carrier plate so as to be simultaneously operable.
12. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in Claim 10, ~~or Claim 11~~ wherein the cutting pieces are in a pattern which is complementary to the position of the blisters on the pack to be deblistered.
13. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims Claim 1, wherein the lidding material cutting means is changeable.
14. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims Claim 1, wherein the lidding material cutting means is moveable between a rest position and a cutting position.
15. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims Claim 1, wherein the blister punching means acts indirectly on the blisters.
16. (Currently amended) The Apparatus apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims Claim 1, wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially in a vertical position in the operating position.

17. (Currently amended) A method of deblistering a pharmaceutical blister pack having a number of product blisters covered by a lidding material, comprising ~~the steps of~~:
- locating the blister pack on a pack holding means having complementary pockets corresponding to the blisters of the blister pack,
- transferring the pack holding means into an operating position in alignment with a lidding material cutting means and a blister punching means, wholly, substantially or partly cutting the lidding material by activation of the lidding material cutting means,
- deblistering the contents of the product blisters by engagement of the blister punching means such that the contents are without the blister pack, and
- moving the deblistered blister pack out of alignment with the operating position.
18. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially horizontal when locating the blister pack thereon.
19. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method as claimed in Claim 17, ~~or Claim 18~~ wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially vertical in the operating position.
20. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 17 to 19~~ Claim 17, wherein at least one of the lidding material cutting means ~~and/or~~ and the blister punching means are linearly moveable between a rest position and an engagement position.

21. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]] The method as claimed in any one of Claims 17 to 20~~
Claim 17, wherein at least one of the pack holding means ~~and/or~~ and the blister pack are
wholly or substantially stationary during engagement of the cutting means and blister
punching means.

22. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 17,

wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially horizontal when
locating the blister pack thereon;

wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially vertical in the
operating position;

wherein at least one of the lidding material cutting means and the blister punching
means are linearly moveable between a rest position and an engagement position; and

wherein at least one of the pack holding means and the blister pack are wholly or
substantially stationary during engagement of the cutting means and blister punching
means.

23. (New) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1,

wherein the pack holding means has a series of indentations;

wherein the pack holding means retains the blister pack through at least one of a retaining means and a restraining means, and wherein the pack holding means is moveable into and out of alignment of the operating position in one movement;

wherein the lidding material cutting means includes a number of cutting pieces, wherein the cutting pieces are in a pattern which is complementary to the position of the blisters on the pack to be deblistered, and wherein the lidding material cutting means is moveable between a rest position and a cutting position;

wherein the blister punching means acts indirectly on the blisters; and

wherein the pack holding means is wholly or substantially in a vertical position in the operating position.